

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MEXICO IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY PANAMA

S E C R E T STATE 213660

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR MX VE PN YO AG US

SUBJECT: SECRETARY'S MEETING WITH MEXICAN FOREIGN
MINISTER RABASA

1. ON SEPTEMBER 6 SECRETARY MET FOR HOUR AND QUARTER
WITH MEXICAN FOREIGN MINISTER RABASA.

RABASA PRESENTED A PAPER WHICH RABASA SAID HAD
BEEN PREPARED BY MEXICO, ALGERIA, YUGOSLAVIA AND
VENEZUELA. ACCORDING TO RABASA, PURPOSE OF DOCUMENT
WAS TO PRESENT VIEWS OF THESE COUNTRIES ON THREE ISSUES:

-- A. DESIRE FOR COMPREHENSIVE AND INTEGRATED DC-LDC
AGREEMENT COVERING COMMODITIES;

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-- B. IMPROVED LDC ACCESS TO DC MARKETS; AND

-- C. RESOURCE TRANSFERS, INCLUDING LINKING SDRS FOR DEVELOPMENT FINANCING AND COMPREHENSIVE FOREIGN DEBT RELIEF.

RABASA HOPED THAT SOME OF THESE COULD BE DISCUSSED AT THIS UNGA SPECIAL SESSION.

2. SECRETARY TOLD RABASA THAT US CANNOT IN PRINCIPLE AGREE TO LDC PROPOSAL FOR AN UMBRELLA COMMODITY ARRANGEMENT NOR AN INTEGRATED APPROACH ON A PACKAGE OF 18 COMMODITIES. HE ADDED THAT US HAS ALREADY COME LONG WAY, AGAINST MUCH RESISTANCE, IN RESPONDING TO LDC DESIRES FOR SPECIFIC ARRANGEMENTS ON COMMODITIES, E.G., US JOINING INTERNATIONAL TIN AGREEMENT AND FORTHCOMING US PROPOSALS AT UNGA SPECIAL SESSION. WE ARE PREPARED FOR CASE BY CASE BASIS TALKS. WE AND THE LDCS CAN IDENTIFY THOSE COMMODITIES ON WHICH AGREEMENT IS LIKELY, THOSE THAT ARE DOUBTFUL BUT PERHAPS ACHIEVABLE OVER TIME, AND THOSE ON WHICH AGREEMENT IS IMPOSSIBLE.

3. SECRETARY SUGGESTED THAT US AND LDCS TRY TO IDENTIFY CERTAIN PRINCIPLES WHICH COULD BE AGREED TO CONCERNING IMPROVED LDC ACCESS TO MARKETS AND TRANSFER OF RESOURCES. WE WOULD CERTAINLY BE GLAD TO REVIEW THOSE SUGGESTED IN THE PAPER PRESENTED BY RABASA. AMBASSADOR MOYNIHAN WAS REQUESTED TO EXPLORE WITH MEXICAN UN AMBASSADOR WAYS IN WHICH US COULD BE RESPONSIVE TO SOME OF THOSE SUGGESTIONS.

4. SECRETARY DESCRIBED PROGRESS WE HAVE ACHIEVED RECENTLY WITH REGARD TO THE PANAMA CANAL NEGOTIATIONS. REPLYING TO A RABASA QUERY WHETHER HE COULD TELL PANAMA CANAL NEGOTIATOR, TACK, ABOUT SECRETARY'S OPTIMISM THAT WE CAN WORK OUT AN AGREEMENT, SECRETARY ANSWERED AFFIRMATIVELY. KISSINGER

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